

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 19, wherein said at least one An  
~~improved pin for CVT chains comprising contact ends at least one of which~~ includes said at least  
one curved section extending in a moving direction of the CVT chain.

2. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 19, wherein said at least one An  
~~improved pin for CVT chains comprising contact ends at least one of which~~ includes said at least  
one inclined section converging in the CVT chain's entry side.

3. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 1, wherein An improved pin  
~~according to claim 1 in which~~ said at least one curved section extends over an entire area of said  
at least one contact end in said moving direction of the CVT chain.

4. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 2, wherein An improved pin  
~~according to claim 2 in which~~ said at least one inclined section is formed on said at least one  
contact end.

5. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 2, wherein said at least one  
inclined section includes An improved pin according to claim 2 in which two inclined sections  
~~are~~ formed on said at least one contact end.

6. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 19, wherein said at least one ~~An improved pin for CVT chains comprising contact ends at least one of which~~ includes said at least one curved section extending at least locally in a vertical direction of the CVT chain.

7. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 19, wherein said at least one ~~An improved pin for CVT chains comprising contact ends at least one of which~~ includes said at least one inclined section extending at least locally in a vertical direction of the CVT chain.

8. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 19, wherein said at least one ~~An improved pin for CVT chains comprising contact ends at least one of which~~ includes said at least one groove extending in at least one of a vertical and or a moving directions of the CVT chain.

9. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 8, wherein said ~~An improved pin according to claim 8 in which~~ at least one groove is formed in said at least one contact end ~~whilest~~ extending in said vertical direction of the CVT chain.

10. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 8, wherein said ~~An improved pin according to claim 8 in which~~ at least one groove is formed in said at least one contact end ~~whilest~~ extending in said moving direction of the CVT chain.

11. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 8, wherein said ~~An improved pin according to claim 8 in which~~ at least one groove includes two grooves ~~are~~ formed in said at

least one contact end while~~st~~ extending in said vertical and said moving directions of the CVT chain, respectively.

12. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 19, wherein said at least one  
~~An improved pin for CVT chains comprising contact ends at least one of which~~ includes  
said at least one a curved section extending in a moving direction and said at least one an  
inclined section converging in ~~a~~ the CVT chain's entry side;  
said at least one curved section extending at least locally in a vertical direction of  
the CVT chain; and  
said at least one groove extending in at least one of said a vertical and or a moving  
directions of the CVT chain.

13. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 20, wherein said at least one  
~~An improved strip for CVT chains comprising contact ends at least one of which~~ includes a said  
at least one curved section extending at least locally in a vertical direction of the CVT chain.

14. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 20, wherein said at least one  
~~An improved strip for CVT chains comprising contact ends at least one of which~~ includes an said  
at least one inclined section extending at least locally in a vertical direction of the CVT chain.

15. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 20, wherein said at least one  
~~An improved strip for CVT chains comprising contact ends at least one of which~~ includes a said

at least one curved section formed on at least one of an upper end and a lower ends whilest extending at least locally in a moving direction of the CVT chain.

16. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 20, wherein said at least one  
~~An improved strip for CVT chains comprising contact ends at least one of which~~ includes said at least one groove extending in at least one of a vertical direction and a moving directions of the CVT chain.

17. (Once Amended) The mechanical component of claim 20, wherein said at least one  
~~An improved strip for CVT chains comprising contact ends at least one of which~~ includes said at least one groove formed on at least one of an upper end and a lower ends whilest extending in an axial direction of the CVT chain.

18. (New) A mechanical component used for a continuously variable transmission (CVT) chain, comprising

a mechanical component having at least one contact end that includes at least one section selected from a group consisting of at least one curved section, at least one inclined section, and at least one groove.

19. (New) The mechanical component of claim 18, wherein said mechanical component is a pin.

20. (New) The mechanical component of claim 18, wherein said mechanical component is a strip.